

In accordance with Chapter 506 of the Acts of 1916, the members of the State Board of Education are appointed by the Governor. One member is appointed annually for a term of seven years from the first Monday in May next succeeding the appointment.

The State Board of Education selects a State Superintendent of Schools, and through him and his assistants, has general control of the Public School System of the State. The Board is a legislative body, and, as such, enacts by-laws and prescribes rules and regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of the school laws. These by-laws and rules include regulations for the construction of school buildings, for grading and standardizing all public schools, for the certification of public school teachers, for taking the bi-ennial school census, and for a uniform series of forms and blanks for the use of county superintendents, school officials and teachers.

The State Superintendent of Schools is the executive officer of the Board. The members of the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Schools are ex-officio trustees of the State Normal Schools.

State Superintendent of Schools.

The State Superintendent of Schools is appointed by the State Board of Education for a term of four years and is ex-officio secretary and treasurer of the Board. He is the executive officer of the State Board of Education, which, in addition to having general control of the State School System, is charged with the duties of interpreting school laws and acting without expense to the parties concerned in all controversies and disputes involving the proper administration of the public school system. He carries out the educational policies of the State Board of Education. He conducts conferences of school officials and teachers, issues teachers' certificates, passes upon proposals for the sale of school sites and buildings, and the plans for the construction of new buildings. He directs the taking of the bi-ennial school census, prepares courses of study and an annual report. He also issues bulletins from time to time on the conditions and needs of the schools.

Either in person, or through his assistants, he has general supervision over the educational conditions in the counties and co-operates with county school officials in welding together school interests in a State system. He certifies to the Comptroller each year a list of schools entitled to receive State aid, and the amount due each county in part payment by the State of the salaries of superintendents, supervisors and attendance officers. He audits the accounts of the county boards of education and sees that their expenditures conform to the law. His approval is necessary in the appointment of county superintendents, supervisors, and attendance officers by the County Boards of Education. The State Superintendent is a member ex-officio of the Board of Trustees of the State Teachers' Retirement System, and also performs the duties formerly entrusted to the Maryland Public Library Commission, giving advice and counsel to all public and school libraries and organizing traveling libraries.

All communications pertaining to the supervision and administration of the State School System (Baltimore City not included) should be sent to him either as State Superintendent of Schools, or as secretary to the State Board of Education.

Work of the State Department of Education.

The twenty-three counties of the State in 1927-28 enrolled in school over 158,000 pupils in 2,000 schools in charge of over 4,800 teachers. Over 23,000 of these pupils were in the 174 high schools distributed in the twenty-three counties of the State. In the same year the counties